

Calverley Urban District Council.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending December 31st, 1931.

To the Chairman and Members of the Calverley Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in once again presenting to you my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Village for 1931.

During the First Quarter of the year we had a short epidemic of Influenza, of a mild nature.

During the Second Quarter we had some measles, but not an epidemic.

During the Third Quarter there was very little sickness of any kind.

During the Last Quarter, there was very little sickness until December when Influenza visited us.

1931 can be looked back upon as a very healthy year, though a very wet one.

Population.

The Population according to the last census is 3,649, which is 32 less than the estimated one for 1930.

Births.

There were 43 births registered during 1931, 16 males and 27 females. There were 2 still-births, both males. There were no illegitimate births registered.

The Birth Rate was 11.23 per 1,000 of the population, that for England and Wales was 15.8 per 1,000.

Last 10 Years

Number of Births.

Birth Rates

1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
41	31	52	47	47	45	41	46	50	41
12.02	9.15	15.35	13.9	13.7	12.5	11.2	12.5	13.6	11.23

Deaths.

There were 50 Deaths registered during the year, 28 Males and 22 Females, of these 50 deaths 11 took place outside the Village, 2 of which were due to Motor Accidents. The Death Rate is 13.7, that for England and Wales is 12.3. The average age at Death was 67 years.

There were no deaths of Infants under 1 year, our Infantile Mortality rate is therefore Nil, that for England and Wales was 66 per 1,000 live births.

There were no cases of Maternal Mortality.

Last 10 Years.

Number of Deaths

Death Rates

1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
28	46	36	35	50	53	55	45	39	50
8.2	13.5	10.63	10.4	14.5	15.2	15.4	12.2	10.6	13.7

Deaths occurred at the following ages :—

5 to 10 years.	10 to 20	30 to 40	40 to 50	50 to 60
2	1	3	1	6

60 to 70	70 to 80	Over 80
9	19	9

Deaths occurred from the following causes :—

Tuberculosis.	Influenza.	Carcinoma.	Diabetes.	Apoplexy.
1	1	5	1	8

Heart Disease.	Bronchitis.	Gastric Ulcer.	Cirrhosis of Liver.	Nephritis.
13	6	1	1	3

Senile Decay.	Accidents.	
8	2	

Zymotic Diseases.

There were 12 Cases of Scarlet Fever, 1 Diphtheria, 2 of Erysipelas and 1 Influenzal Pneumonia. Respiratory Tuberculosis was the cause of 1 death as will be seen from the above table, 2 cases being notified.

Vaccination.

I am sorry to say full use is not made of this part of "Preventative Medicine," there being too many exemptions granted.

Water Supply.

There has been no shortage and no complaints as to quality, or force. Some alterations to mains made in Carr Road.

Scavenging.

On the whole, this has been well carried out.

Cowsheds and Dairies.

I have inspected these and found them complying with the Act. The Cows are periodically inspected by Veterinary Officers and their reports both on the health of the Cows and the quality of Milk are satisfactory.

Slaughterhouses and Bakehouses.

I have inspected these and found them clean and complying with the Act.

Mills and Workshops.

These I have visited and found them Clean, Well-Ventilated and White-washed.

Canal Boats.

These are kept in a most satisfactory manner.

Caravans.

I have periodically visited these and though there is a tendency for them to increase slightly, I have found them clean and tidy, the surrounding ground has on several occasions been littered and untidy, but a word or two to the dwellers has put that right. The Sanitary arrangements are crude and not as satisfactory as I should wish for.

**The Park and
Playing Grounds.**

I am pleased to say that the Park is improving year by year, both in its usefulness and appearance, and I would urge upon you the necessity of making it as attractive as possible, for both young and old. The Playing Grounds are well patronised and a large amount of healthy recreation is indulged in.

Sewerage.

There has been a very necessary extension made, viz.: the Main Outfall Sewer from Greengates to Rodley. Many Privies have been converted into Water Closets.

I regret that the Green has not been made presentable, it is such an eyesore on entering the Village, to see such an untidy place. The Council have made part of it very nice and it would be a great boon to the Village, if it were completed, instead of as at present being used as a tip for rubbish by many of the Villagers.

The extension to the Church Burial ground has been commenced and will, when finished, add to the appearance of Town Gate and provide space for burials for many years to come.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, may I give you a brief resumé of my Report.

Whilst the births have been fewer than usual, we have had no Infantile Mortality, no Maternal Deaths, and no cases of Puerperal Sepsis.

The Number of Deaths is greater than usual, possibly due to the wet weather and lack of sunshine, on the other hand the average age at Death was 7 years higher than last year and as you will see from the table, 28 deaths occurred at over 70 years of age.

The Zymotic Diseases have not been as numerous and only one death has resulted therefrom.

The Main Outfall Sewer from Greengates to Rodley has been completed, enabling many conversions from Privies to Water Closets to have been completed, including those at Lydgate Mills. May I impress upon you, the desirability of continuing these conversions. The Council in my opinion should not shrink from offering every facility in cases which present more than usual difficulty. The Tip in Farsley Lane has been discontinued and now all refuse is being tipped in an isolated and very suitable site in the Rodley Fold district.

The Old Sewage Disposal Works below the Lodge Farm, which had undoubtedly become inadequate have now been closed down. I consider that the Council in carrying out the Main Outfall System, which is capable of serving every part of the Village (with minor exceptions) has shown courage and foresight and as your Medical Officer of Health, I have taken a keen interest in the scheme and am delighted with the very real improvement which will result therefrom.

As I look back upon the last few years, I find that the Sanitation of the Village is most assuredly progressing and I trust the day is not far distant when all Privies which it is at all possible to convert to Water Closets will be dealt with.

I have the honour, Gentlemen, to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

NORMAN A. A. HUGHES.

Medical Officer of Health.

SHAFTESBURY HOUSE,
CALVERLEY,

April, 1932.

